Amendment to the Claims

This listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for producing a cigarette in a tipping machine, the apparatus comprising:

(i) means for supplying a formed cigarette rod;

(ii) means for rotating the cigarette rod about its longitudinal axis in a controlled manner such that the cigarette rod is maintained in one location relative to the tipping machine ~~undergoes no translational movement during rotation~~; and

(iii) means for applying a predetermined pattern of an additive material to at least one predetermined region of the cigarette rod as the cigarette rod is rotated while it is maintained in one location relative to the tipping machine ~~undergoes no translational movement~~.

2. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the means for applying a predetermined pattern of the additive material comprises at least one application means.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for producing a filtered cigarette in a tipping machine, the apparatus comprising:

(i) means for supplying a two-up filtered cigarette rod having two smokable rods and a filter element of double length therebetween;

(ii) means for rotating the two-up filtered cigarette rod about its longitudinal axis in a controlled manner such that the two-up filtered cigarette rod is

maintained in one location relative to the tipping machine ~~undergoes no translational movement during rotation~~; and

(iii) means for applying a predetermined pattern of an additive material to at least one predetermined region of each smokable rod as the cigarette rod is rotated while it is maintained in one location relative to the tipping machine ~~undergoes no translational movement~~.

5. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 4, wherein the means for applying a predetermined pattern of the additive material comprises at least one application means.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a cigarette having additive material applied thereto using a tipping machine, the method comprising:

(i) supplying a formed cigarette rod;

(ii) rotating the cigarette rod in a controlled manner about its longitudinal axis using a transfer drum and a cooperating laser cam such that the cigarette rod is maintained in one location relative to the tipping machine ~~undergoes no translational movement during rotation~~; and

(iii) applying a predetermined pattern of an additive material to at least one predetermined region of the cigarette rod as the cigarette rod is rotated while it is maintained in one location relative to the tipping machine ~~undergoes no translational movement~~.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 7, wherein the predetermined pattern of the additive material is applied using at least one application means.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a filtered cigarette having additive material applied thereto using a tipping machine, the method comprising:

(i) supplying a two-up filtered cigarette rod having two smokable rods and a filter element of double length therebetween;

(ii) rotating the two-up filtered cigarette rod in a controlled manner about its longitudinal axis using a transfer drum and a cooperating laser cam such that the two-up filtered cigarette rod is maintained in one location relative to the tipping machine ~~undergoes no translational movement during rotation~~; and

(iii) applying a predetermined pattern of an additive material to at least one predetermined region of each smokable rod as the two-up filtered cigarette rod is rotated while it is maintained in one location relative to the tipping machine ~~undergoes no translational movement~~.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 10, wherein the predetermined pattern of the additive material is applied using at least one application means.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Original) The method of Claim 10, wherein the predetermined pattern is a band circumscribing the cigarette rod.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, wherein the at least one predetermined region is at a portion of each smokable rod positioned over a circumferential groove in the transfer drum.

15. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a filtered cigarette having additive material applied thereto, the method comprising:

(i) supplying a two-up filtered cigarette rod having two smokable rods and a filter element of double length therebetween;

(ii) rotating the two-up filtered cigarette rod in a controlled manner about its longitudinal axis;

(iii) applying a predetermined pattern of an additive material to at least one predetermined region of each smokable rod as the two-up filtered cigarette rod is rotated; and

(iv) laser perforating the filter element concurrently with applying the predetermined pattern.

16. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a filtered cigarette having additive material applied thereto, the method comprising:

(i) supplying a two-up filtered cigarette rod having two smokable rods and a filter element of double length therebetween;

(ii) rotating the two-up filtered cigarette rod in a controlled manner about its longitudinal axis; and

(iii) applying a predetermined pattern of an additive material to at least one predetermined region of each smokable rod as the two-up filtered cigarette rod is rotated, wherein the at least one predetermined region is at a portion of each smokable rod positioned over a circumferential groove in a transfer drum.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 7, wherein the at least one predetermined region is at a portion of the cigarette rod positioned over a circumferential groove in the transfer drum.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 7, further comprising laser perforating the cigarette rod concurrently with applying the predetermined pattern.

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 2, wherein said at least one application means comprises a nozzle-type applicator, a printing-type applicator, or a wiping-type applicator.

20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 5, wherein said at least one application means comprises a nozzle-type applicator, a printing-type applicator, or a wiping-type applicator.

21. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for producing a cigarette, the apparatus comprising:

(i) means for supplying a formed cigarette rod;

(ii) means for rotating the cigarette rod about its longitudinal axis in a controlled manner;

(iii) means for applying a predetermined pattern of an additive material to at least one predetermined region of the cigarette rod as the cigarette rod is rotated; and

(iv) means for laser perforating the cigarette rod concurrently with applying the predetermined pattern.

22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the means for rotating comprises a transfer drum having at least one circumferential groove, and the means for applying is adapted to apply the predetermined pattern on the at least one predetermined region, wherein the at least one predetermined region is positioned over the circumferential groove.

23. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for producing a filtered cigarette, the apparatus comprising:

(i) means for supplying a two-up filtered cigarette rod having two smokable rods and a filter element of double length therebetween;

(ii) means for rotating the two-up filtered cigarette rod about its longitudinal axis in a controlled manner;

(iii) means for applying a predetermined pattern of an additive material to at least one predetermined region of each smokable rod as the cigarette rod is rotated; and

(iv) means for laser perforating the filter element concurrently with applying the predetermined pattern.

24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 23, wherein the means for rotating comprises a transfer drum having at least one circumferential groove, and the means for applying is adapted to apply the predetermined pattern on the at least one predetermined region, wherein the at least one predetermined region is positioned over the circumferential groove.

25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the means for rotating the cigarette rod about its longitudinal axis in a controlled manner comprises a transfer drum and a cooperating laser cam.

26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the means for rotating rotates the cigarette rod at least one complete rotation about its longitudinal axis while the cigarette rod is maintained in one location relative to the tipping machine ~~undergoes no translational movement~~.

27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 4, wherein the means for rotating the two-up filtered cigarette rod about its longitudinal axis in a controlled manner comprises a transfer drum and a cooperating laser cam.

28. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 4, wherein the means for rotating rotates the cigarette rod at least one complete rotation about its longitudinal axis while the cigarette rod is maintained in one location relative to the tipping machine ~~undergoes no translational movement~~.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 7, wherein the cigarette rod is rotated at least one complete rotation about its longitudinal axis while the cigarette rod is maintained in one location relative to the tipping machine ~~undergoes no translational movement~~.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein the cigarette rod is rotated at least one complete rotation about its longitudinal axis while the cigarette rod is maintained in one location relative to the tipping machine ~~undergoes no translational movement~~.

31. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the predetermined pattern is a band circumscribing the cigarette rod.

32. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 25, wherein the at least one predetermined region is at a portion of each cigarette rod positioned over a circumferential groove in the transfer drum.

33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 4, wherein the predetermined pattern is a band circumscribing the cigarette rod.

34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 27, wherein the at least one predetermined region is at a portion of each smokable rod positioned over a circumferential groove in the transfer drum.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 7, wherein the predetermined pattern is a band circumscribing the cigarette rod.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 7, wherein the predetermined pattern of the additive material is applied in a controlled pulse.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 7, wherein the additive material comprises a film-forming coating formulation.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 7, wherein the cigarette rod comprises a wrapping material upon which the predetermined pattern of the additive material is applied, and inherent porosities of the wrapping material upon which the predetermined pattern of the additive material is applied are between about 0.1 CORESTA units about 8.5 CORESTA units.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 38, wherein the inherent porosities of the wrapping material upon which the predetermined pattern of the additive material is applied are between about 0.1 CORESTA units about 4 CORESTA units.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, wherein the predetermined pattern of the additive material is applied in a controlled pulse.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, wherein the additive material comprises a film-forming coating formulation.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, wherein the smokable rod comprises a wrapping material upon which the predetermined pattern of the additive material is applied, and inherent porosities of the wrapping material upon which the predetermined pattern of the additive material is applied are between about 0.1 CORESTA units about 8.5 CORESTA units.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 42, wherein the inherent porosities of the wrapping material upon which the predetermined pattern of the additive material is applied are between about 0.1 CORESTA units about 4 CORESTA units.